
Hintlesham and Chattisham

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
2025-2037



LOCAL GREEN SPACES ASSESSMENT

HINTLESHAM AND CHATTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL
August 2025

Prepared in support of the
Hintlesham and Chattisham Neighbourhood Plan



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The parishes of Hintlesham and Chattisham have several 'green spaces' that are important to the character of the village and provide an amenity for its residents. Paragraphs 106 and 107 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF – December 2024) identifies the possibility of identifying green spaces that meet certain characteristics as "Local Green Spaces". The paragraphs state:

106. *The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or updated, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.*
107. *The Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:*
- a) *in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;*
 - b) *demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and*
 - c) *local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.*

This report provides an assessment of the green spaces in the parish against the criteria in paragraph 106 to support the designation of local green spaces in the emerging Hintlesham and Chattisham Neighbourhood Plan.

Appraisal

The following pages provide a detailed assessment of the identified spaces to ascertain whether they conform with the Local Green Space definition of the NPPF.

In the context of the NPPF, the following criteria have been applied:

Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment Approach
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves	No definition of 'close proximity' is given in the NPPF. This assessment will take it to be areas within or adjoining the village settlement boundary.
2. Demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particular local significance, such as for its beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity or richness of its wildlife.	For an open space to be considered special to the local community and hold a local significance it must meet <u>at least one</u> of the following criteria: Beauty: the area enhances local character, adds to the setting of a building or groups of buildings – judged as being the visual attractiveness of the area as a whole and the contribution that it makes to the landscape or townscape or landmark Historic significance: the area is important for the setting of a listed building or other heritage asset; it includes historic landscape features, such as ancient trees; or the area itself holds some specific historic importance Recreational value: the area offers a recreational benefit to the community such as a play area, allotments, informal spaces in housing estates, sports and playing fields (not already covered by another designation) Tranquillity: the area has a remoteness to it, with an absence of artificial noise and visible signs of urbanity allowing for calm and for quiet enjoyment and reflection Richness of its wildlife: the area provides for biodiversity, geodiversity, known protected species, and/or priority habitats
3. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land	No definition of an 'extensive tract of land' is given in the NPPF.

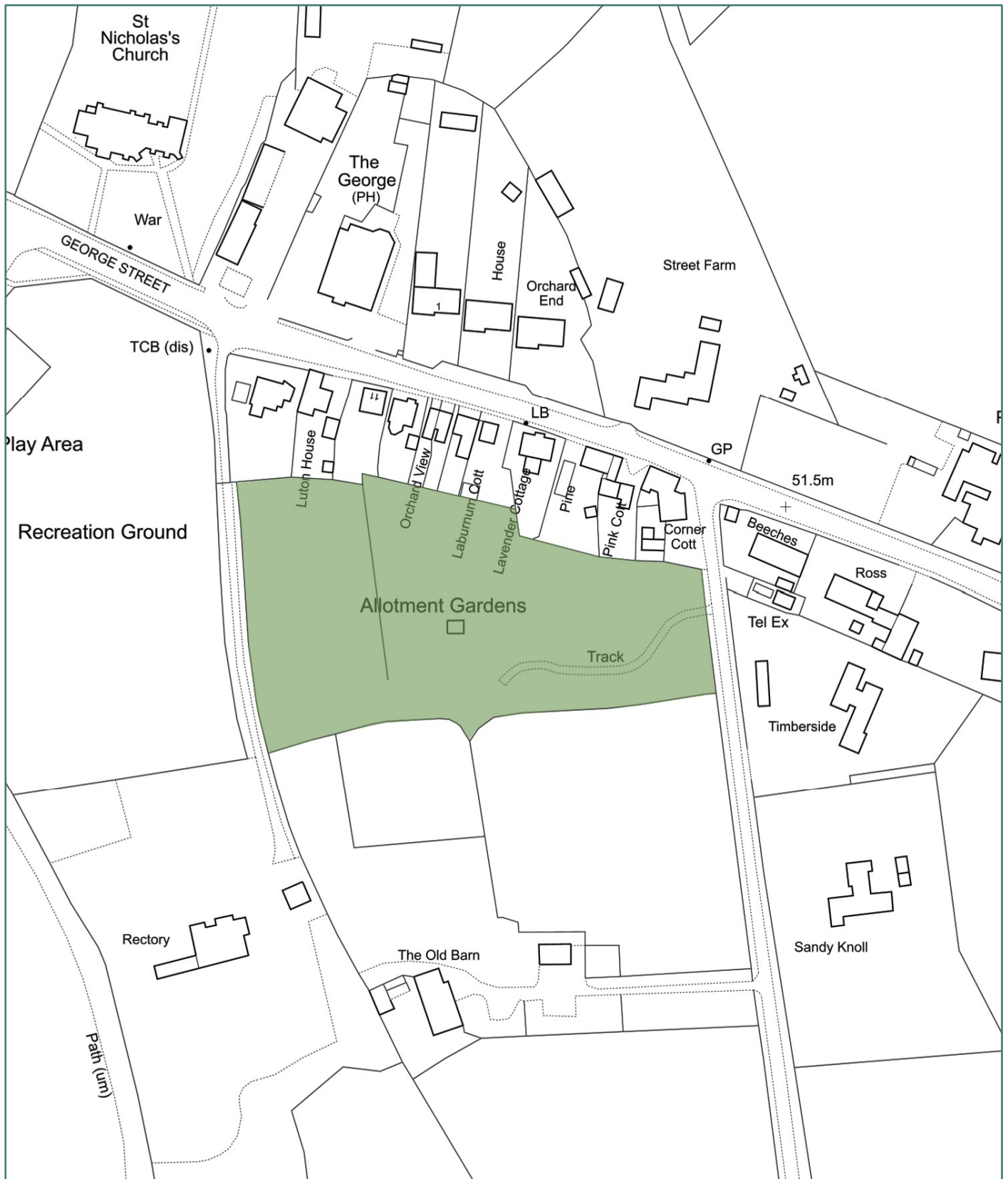
Each of the areas were assessed against the criteria for Local Green Space designation and for their overall value to the community, as well as the level of risk to the open area.

Hintlesham Recreation Ground and Play Area



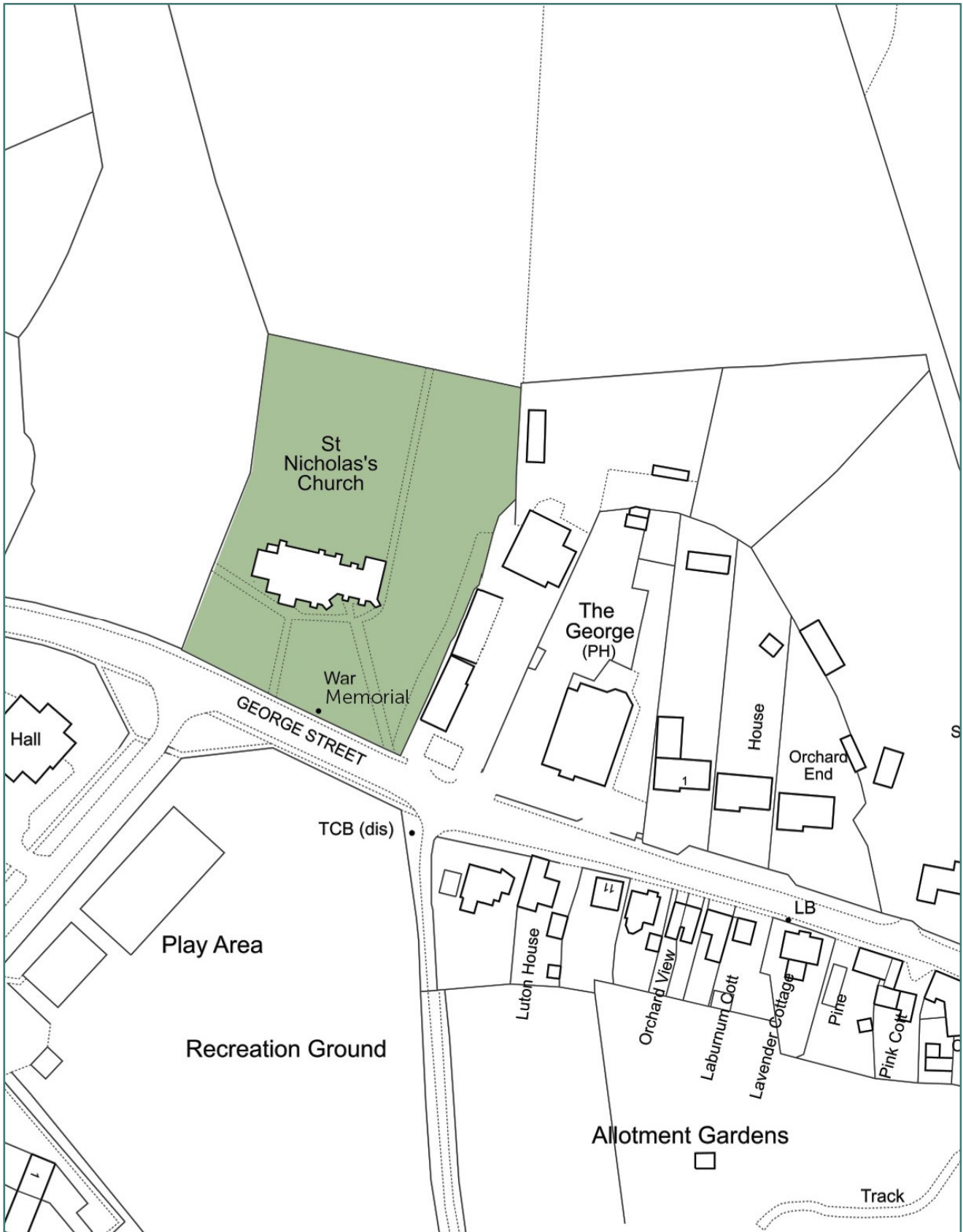
Site Details	
Description and purpose	Parish recreation ground and play area
Checklist	
Statutory designations	None
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	1.45 Ha
Ownership	Parish Council, managed by Community Council
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	At centre of village adjoining Community Hall and near primary school
Public access	Access permitted at all times
Ecologically significant	Hedgerows and some trees on all borders provide habitats
Historically significant	None
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	An area for both formal sports and informal recreation and play that is well used by the community
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, totally self-contained
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes, due to being owned by Parish Council
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

Hintlesham Allotments



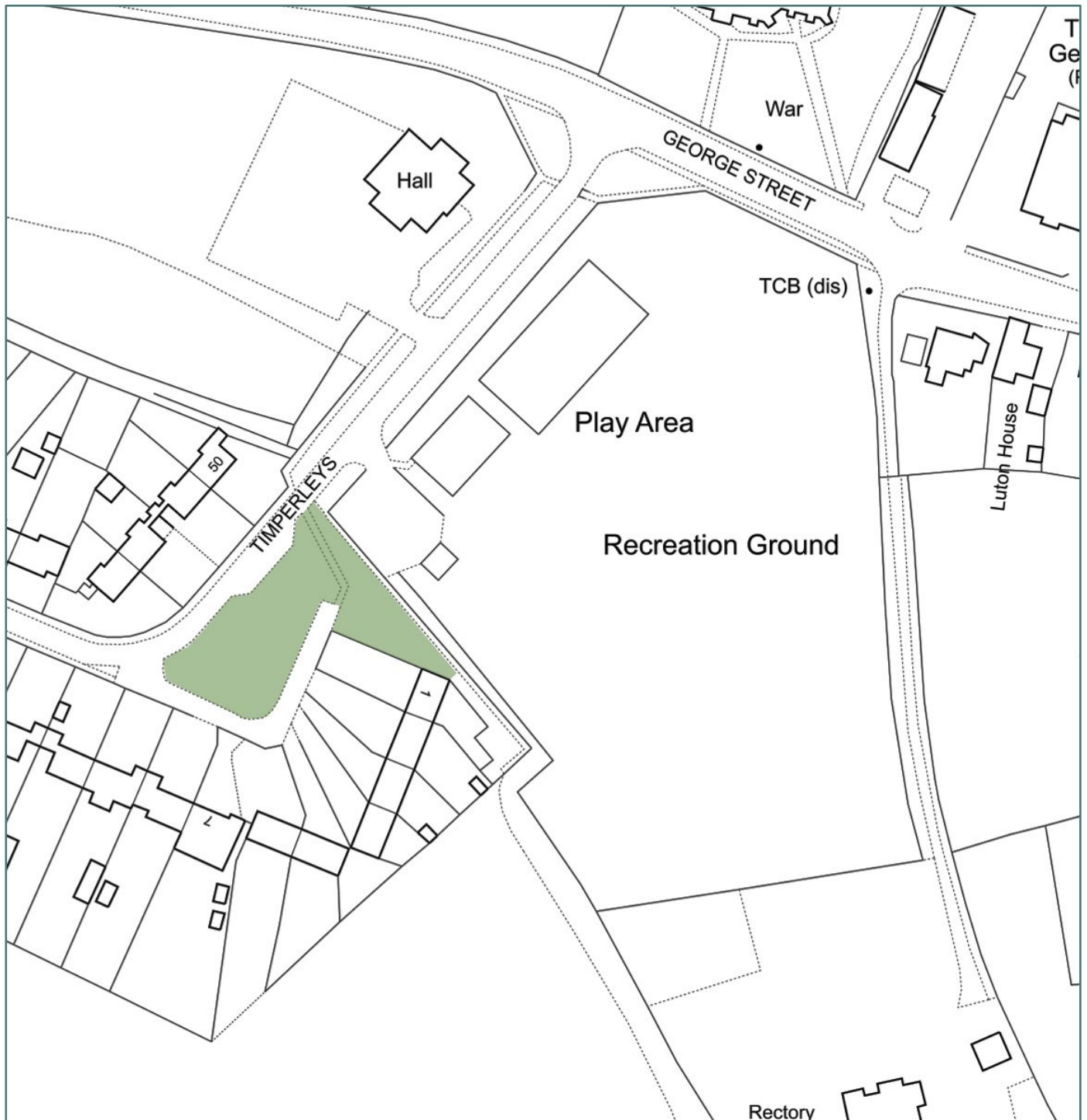
Site Details	
Description and purpose	Parish allotments
Checklist	
Statutory designations	Statutory allotments
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	0.95 Ha
Ownership	Dioceses of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	In centre of village close to Recreation Ground and Community Hall
Public access	The site is not fully accessible to residents
Ecologically significant	Enclosed by hedgerows on most sides and a number of trees are spread across the site providing a range of habitats.
Historically significant	None
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Provides an Important open area and an opportunity for future formal allotments or community gardens.
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, totally self-contained
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes.
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

Hintlesham Churchyard



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Churchyard
Checklist	
Statutory designations	Church and the War Memorial are both Grade II listed buildings
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	0.62 Ha
Ownership	Dioceses of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Centrally located in the village
Public access	Accessible at all times
Ecologically significant	A number of mature trees are present
Historically significant	The church, churchyard and war memorial are all of high significance to the village and its residents
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	The churchyard is of major local significance given its links to the history of residents that have lived in Hintlesham.
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, totally self-contained
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

Timperleys Open Space



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Amenity Open Space
Checklist	
Statutory designations	None
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	0.13 Ha
Ownership	Babergh District Council
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Within residential area
Public access	Accessible at all times – a public footpath runs along the northern boundary
Ecologically significant	Predominantly mown grass but some trees present and hedgerow on the northern boundary
Historically significant	None
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Important open area providing amenity space for residents
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, totally self-contained
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

Chattisham Play Area



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Play Area
Checklist	
Statutory designations	None
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	0.26 Ha
Ownership	Parish Council
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Within residential area
Public access	Accessible at all times
Ecologically significant	Predominantly mown grass with hedgerows on most boundaries
Historically significant	None
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Important open area and also providing childrens' play equipment for local residents
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, totally self-contained
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

Chattisham Churchyard



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Churchyard
Checklist	
Statutory designations	Church is Grade II* listed building
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	0.24 Ha
Ownership	Dioceses of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Centrally located in village
Public access	Accessible at all times
Ecologically significant	Significant trees along northern boundary and pond adjoins eastern boundary
Historically significant	The church and churchyard are of high significance to the village and its residents
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	The churchyard is of major local significance given its links to the history of residents that have lived in Chattisham
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, totally self-contained
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

Green entrance to Chattisham Church



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Informal open space
Checklist	
Statutory designations	None
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	0.04 Ha
Ownership	Believed to be Suffolk County Council
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Centrally located in village adjoining parish church
Public access	Accessible at all times
Ecologically significant	Mown grass with trees forming the eastern boundary
Historically significant	None
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Of significance for providing a setting to the adjacent Grade II* listed church and Grade II listed Chattisham House opposite
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, totally self-contained
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

Church Belt, Hintlesham



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Community woodland
Checklist	
Statutory designations	Whole area covered by Tree Preservation Order (reference BT124/W1)
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	2.1 Ha
Ownership	Hintlesham and Chattisham Community Council
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Centrally located in village adjoining Community Hall
Public access	Accessible at all times
Ecologically significant	Mature woodland mainly of Sycamore and Oak with some Horse Chestnut
Historically significant	None
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	A significant landmark in the village providing a setting to the grounds of nearby Hintlesham Hall (opposite)
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, totally self-contained
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation